IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND the claims in accordance with the following:

1.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus connected to a plurality of servers through a network environment, for dynamically assigning each of the plurality of servers to one of a plurality of customers and applying revision information to software operating in respective servers, comprising:

a storage device storing management information indicating a correspondence of a name of target software of issued revision information, an issue date, an importance degree and a version of the issued revision information, a customer used software list indicating a correspondence of a customer name, a name of software that the customer uses and a restricting condition including a threshold designated by the customer, and a dynamic assignment table indicating a correspondence of a server name, a customer name, a name of installed software and a version;

a calculation device referring to the management information when new revision information is issued, calculating basic points corresponding to issue dates for respective versions of software corresponding to a name of target software of the new revision information, and calculating indexes of the respective versions by changing the obtained basic points according to importance degrees of the respective versions; and

an application device referring to the customer used software list~~,~~ and obtaining ~~a~~ the customer name and ~~a~~ the restricting condition corresponding to the ~~same~~ name of software ~~as~~ matching the name of target software of the new revision information, referring to the dynamic assignment table~~,~~ and obtaining ~~a~~ the customer name and ~~a~~ the version corresponding to the ~~same~~ name of installed software ~~as~~ matching the name of target software of the new revision information, checking whether ~~a~~ the calculated index for the obtained version satisfies the restricting condition for each customer name by comparing the calculated index with ~~a~~ the threshold included in the obtained restricting condition, obtaining ~~a~~ the server name corresponding to the ~~same~~ name of installed software ~~as~~ matching the name of target software of the new revision information if the calculated index does not satisfy the restricting condition,

and applying the new revision information to the installed software operating in a server with the obtained server name to update the installed software.

2.   (Currently Amended) A computer readable ~~medium storing~~ storage encoded with a program for a computer, connected to a plurality of servers through a network environment, to dynamically assign each of the plurality of servers to one of a plurality of customers and apply revision information to software operating in respective servers, the program ~~causing a~~, which when executed by a computer ~~to execute~~, causes the computer to perform a process comprising:

referring to management information indicating a correspondence of a name of target software of issued revision information, an issue date, an importance degree and a version of the issued revision information, when new revision information is issued, calculating basic points corresponding to issue dates for respective versions of software corresponding to ~~a~~ the name of target software of the new revision information, and calculating indexes of the respective versions by changing the obtained basic points according to importance degrees of the respective versions;

referring to a customer used software list indicating a correspondence of a customer name, a name of software that the customer uses and a restricting condition including a threshold designated by the customer, obtaining ~~a~~, from the customer used software list, the customer name and ~~a~~ the restricting condition corresponding to the ~~same~~ name of software ~~as~~ matching the name of target software of the new revision information, referring to a dynamic assignment table indicating a correspondence of a server name, a customer name, a name of installed software and a version, obtaining ~~a~~, from the dynamic assignment table, the customer name and ~~a~~ the version corresponding to the ~~same~~ name of installed software ~~as~~ matching the name of target software of the new revision information, checking whether ~~a~~ the calculated index for the obtained version satisfies the restricting condition for each customer name by comparing the calculated index with ~~a~~ the threshold included in the obtained restricting condition; and

obtaining ~~a~~ the server name corresponding to the ~~same~~ name of installed software ~~as~~ matching the name of target software of the new revision information if the calculated index does not satisfy the restricting condition, and applying the new revision information to the installed software operating in a server with the obtained server name to update the installed software.

3.   (Currently Amended) The computer readable ~~medium~~ storage according to claim 2, the process further comprising preparing a same software configuration as that of the server

with the obtained server name in an unused server that has not been assigned to any customer yet, applying the new revision information to the installed software included in the software configuration in the unused server, and assigning the unused server instead of the server with the obtained server name to the customer in order to update the installed software.

4.   (Currently Amended) The computer readable ~~medium~~ storage according to claim 2, wherein the program applies the new revision information to update the software that has not been assigned to any customer in an unused server that has not been assigned to any customer, and assigns the unused server to a customer, when the customer who requires that software appears.

5.   (cancelled)

6.   (Currently Amended) The computer readable ~~medium~~ storage according to claim 2, wherein the program calculates the index for a version of the target software that the customer is using out of a plurality of versions of the target software to which the new revision information is applied, and applies the new revision information to said version of the target software if the index of the version of the target software that the customer is using does not satisfy the restricting condition.

7.   (cancelled)

8.   (Currently Amended) A method for dynamically assigning each of a plurality of servers to one of a plurality of customers and applying revision information to software operating in respective servers, comprising:

referring to management information indicating a correspondence of a name of target software of issued revision information, an issue date, an importance degree and a version of the issued revision information, when new revision information is issued, calculating basic points corresponding to issue dates for respective versions of software corresponding to ~~a~~ the name of target software of the new revision information, and calculating indexes of the respective versions by changing the obtained basic points according to importance degrees of the respective versions;

referring to a customer used software list indicating a correspondence of a customer name, a name of software that the customer uses and a restricting condition including a

5

threshold designated by the customer, obtaining ~~a~~, from the customer used software list, the customer name and ~~a~~ the restricting condition corresponding to the ~~same~~ name of software ~~as~~ matching the name of target software of the new revision information, referring to a dynamic assignment table indicating a correspondence of a server name, a customer name, a name of installed software and a version, obtaining ~~a~~, from the dynamic assignment table, the customer name and ~~a~~ the version corresponding to the ~~same~~ name of installed software ~~as~~ matching the name of target software of the new revision information, checking whether ~~a~~ the calculated index for the obtained version satisfies the restricting condition for each customer name by comparing the calculated index with ~~a~~ the threshold included in the obtained restricting condition; and

obtaining ~~a~~ the server name corresponding to the ~~same~~ name of installed software ~~as~~ matching the name of target software of the new revision information if the calculated index does not satisfy the restricting condition, and applying the new revision information to the installed software operating in a server with the obtained server name to update the installed software.

9. (Currently Amended) An apparatus connected to a plurality of servers through a network environment, for dynamically assigning each of the plurality of servers to one of a plurality of customers and applying revision information to software operating in respective servers, comprising:

storage means for storing management information indicating a correspondence of a name of target software of issued revision information, an issue date, an importance degree and a version of the issued revision information, a customer used software list indicating a correspondence of a customer name, a name of software that the customer uses and a restricting condition including a threshold designated by the customer, and a dynamic assignment table indicating a correspondence of a server name, a customer name, a name of installed software and a version;

calculation means for referring to the management information when ~~the~~ new revision information is issued, calculating basic points corresponding to issue dates for respective versions of software corresponding to a name of target software of the new revision information, and calculating indexes of the respective versions by changing the obtained basic points according to importance degrees of the respective versions; and

application means for referring to the customer used software list ~~,~~ and obtaining ~~a~~ the customer name and ~~a~~ the restricting condition corresponding to the ~~same~~ name of software ~~as~~ matching the name of target software of the new revision information, referring to the dynamic assignment table ~~,~~ and obtaining ~~a~~ the customer name and ~~a~~ the version corresponding to the

~~same~~ name of installed software ~~as~~ matching the name of target software of the new revision information, checking whether ~~a~~ the calculated index for the obtained version satisfies the restricting condition for each customer name by comparing the calculated index with ~~a~~ the threshold included in the obtained restricting condition, obtaining ~~a~~ the server name corresponding to the ~~same~~ name of installed software ~~as~~ matching the name of target software of the new revision information if the calculated index does not satisfy the restricting condition, and applying the new revision information to the installed software operating in a server with the obtained server name to update the installed software.